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Michigan's May Jobless Rate Unchanged *Michigan Payroll Jobs Expand*

Lansing – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in May was flat over the month at 8.4 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Total employment rose by 24,000 over the month as Michigan's labor force advanced by 28,000. The number of unemployed in the state edged upward in May by 4,000.

The Michigan jobless rate in May 2013 was eight-tenths of a percentage point below the state's May 2012 rate of 9.2 percent. The national jobless rate decreased by six-tenths of a percentage point over this period. The state's unemployment rate in May was eight-tenths of a percentage point above the national rate of 7.6 percent. The U.S. jobless rate increased slightly over the month by one-tenth of a percentage point.

"Michigan's labor market indicators appeared favorable in May," said Michael Williams, acting director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. "Payroll jobs registered a significant increase, and the size of the workforce advanced for the fifth consecutive month."

Monthly Labor Force Trends & Highlights

- May marked the third consecutive month that the number of unemployed in Michigan was below 400,000. The last time that occurred was during the first half of 2008.
- Nearly halfway through 2013, the state's average seasonally adjusted jobless rate was 8.6 percent, which was down by half of a percentage point from the 2012 average rate of 9.1 percent.
- Total employment has consistently tracked upward in Michigan since September 2012. Over this period, total employment growth has averaged a little over 9,000 per month.
- Since May 2012, Michigan's workforce has advanced by 33,000 or 0.7 percent, which outpaced national labor force growth of 0.4 percent over this period.
- From May 2012 to May 2013, the number of unemployed in Michigan declined by 33,000 or 7.7 percent, which was similar to the 7.4 percent decrease nationally.

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MICHIGAN Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

| | May 2012 | April 2013 | May 2013 | Change | |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------|------|
| | | | | Month | Year |
| Civilian Labor Force | 4,665 | 4,670 | 4,698 | 28 | 33 |
| Employment | 4,237 | 4,279 | 4,303 | 24 | 66 |
| Unemployment | 428 | 391 | 395 | 4 | -33 |
| Rate (Percent) | 9.2 | 8.4 | 8.4 | xxx | xxx |

Detroit Metropolitan Area's Jobless Rate Declines Again in May

The Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA's) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in May decreased by two-tenths of a percentage point to 9.3 percent. In May, total employment increased in the region by 9,000 as the number of unemployed declined by 4,000. After remaining flat for the last half of 2012, the area's jobless rate has fallen every month so far in 2013.

From May 2012 to May 2013, the Detroit metropolitan area's jobless rate fell by one and one-tenth percentage points. Over that period, total employment rose in the region by 28,000 or 1.6 percent while the number of unemployed dropped by 21,000 or 10.1 percent. This over-the-year percentage decline in unemployment outpaced both Michigan and the nation. The region's workforce rose modestly by 5,000 since May 2012. The area's labor force total has remained relatively stable for about two years.

Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

| | May 2012 | April 2013 | May 2013 | Change | |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------|------|
| | | | | Month | Year |
| Civilian Labor Force | 2,006 | 2,007 | 2,011 | 4 | 5 |
| Employment | 1,797 | 1,816 | 1,825 | 9 | 28 |
| Unemployment | 208 | 191 | 187 | -4 | -21 |
| Rate (Percent) | 10.4 | 9.5 | 9.3 | xxx | xxx |

(more)

May Payroll Jobs Jump

According to the monthly survey of employers, seasonally adjusted Michigan payroll jobs rose in May by 18,000 to 4,073,000. Over-the-month job gains were primarily confined to two industry sectors in the state; professional and business services (+9,000), and leisure and hospitality services (+7,000). The state's remaining major industry sectors either increased slightly or were flat in May, with the exception of a minor job decline in education and health services.

Industry Employment Trends and Highlights

- After two consecutive months of minor losses, overall payroll jobs in Michigan advanced in May to the highest level recorded in 2013, and continued a mostly upward monthly trend displayed since early 2010.
- Jobs in professional and business services rebounded in May after posting job losses in April. This sector has been trending upward in 2013 and has shown job growth in four of the last five months.
- Leisure and hospitality jobs jumped in May after recording little growth since January. Jobs advanced over the month in both of this sector's main sub-categories; arts, entertainment and recreation, and accommodation and food service.
- Jobs in the information sector have stabilized in mid-2013 after registering consecutive monthly job losses from September through February. However, this sector continues to show the largest over-the-year percentage decline of any major job category in the state (-2.8%).
- Since May 2012, payroll jobs in Michigan increased by 47,000 or 1.2 percent. Manufacturing (+17,000) continued to report the largest over-the-year job gain followed by leisure and hospitality services (+14,000), education and health services (+9,000), and professional and business services (+8,000).
- From May 2012 to May 2013, three major industry sectors in Michigan have recorded job reductions; government (-7,000), information (-2,000), and construction (-2,000).
- Seasonally adjusted average weekly hours and earnings of production workers in manufacturing declined over the month. Hours edged upward over the year, however earnings declined.

(more)

MICHIGAN
Payroll Employment Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted

(Data in Thousands)

| | <u>May</u> <u>2012</u> | <u>April*</u> <u>2013</u> | <u>May**</u> <u>2013</u> | <u>CHANGE***</u> | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| | | | | <u>MONTH</u> | <u>YEAR</u> |
| Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs | 4026 | 4055 | 4073 | 18 | 47 |
| Natural Resources & Mining | 8 | 8 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| Construction | 128 | 125 | 126 | 1 | -2 |
| Manufacturing | 535 | 551 | 552 | 1 | 17 |
| Transportation Equipment | 154 | 161 | 162 | 1 | 8 |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 729 | 734 | 735 | 1 | 6 |
| Retail Trade | 449 | 451 | 453 | 2 | 4 |
| Information | 53 | 51 | 52 | 0 | -2 |
| Financial Activities | 196 | 197 | 197 | 0 | 1 |
| Professional & Business Services | 581 | 580 | 589 | 9 | 8 |
| Education & Health Services | 631 | 641 | 640 | -1 | 9 |
| Leisure & Hospitality Services | 385 | 393 | 399 | 7 | 14 |
| Other Services | 168 | 170 | 170 | 0 | 2 |
| Government | 612 | 605 | 605 | 0 | -7 |

* Final data for April

** Preliminary data for May

*** Change calculated using unrounded data

Hours & Earnings for Production Workers

Seasonally Adjusted

Manufacturing

| | <u>May</u> <u>2012</u> | <u>April</u> <u>2013</u> | <u>May</u> <u>2013</u> | <u>CHANGE</u> | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| | | | | <u>MONTH</u> | <u>YEAR</u> |
| Average Weekly Earnings | \$867.70 | \$879.65 | \$856.09 | -\$23.56 | -\$11.61 |
| Average Weekly Hours | 42.6 | 43.8 | 43.2 | -0.6 | 0.6 |

Transportation Equipment

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| Average Weekly Earnings | \$1,221.88 | \$1,222.29 | \$1,165.96 | -\$56.33 | -\$55.92 |
| Average Weekly Hours | 44.4 | 46.8 | 45.8 | -1.0 | 1.4 |

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